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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE PATENT EXAMINING OPERATIONS

Art Unit:

1761 (Examiner Wong, Leslie A.)

Applicant:

Burgard et al.

Serial No:

09/749,136

Filed:

December 27, 2000

Title:

SALTS OF L-AMINO ACIDS HAVING IMPROVED TASTE AND THEIR

PREPARATION

Charlotte, North Carolina January 7, 2003

Honorable Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT

The Office Action for the above-identified application was dated July 8, 2002. A response was due October 8, 2002. With a three-month extension of time to be charged to Deposit Account 502193, filed simultaneously herewith, the due date has been extended to January 8, 2003.

REMARKS

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C 103 as being unpatentable over Nakajima, Ebisawa et al. and Ninomiya et al. in view of